

OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER, 1940

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

of


OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health

J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Camb.

Sanitary Inspector

G. E. Wells
Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors
Examination.
Royal Sanitary Institute Meat & Other Foods.
Certificate General Hygiene.



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A N N U A L R E P O R T

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of
presenting my Annual Report respecting the health and
sanitary conditions of your District for the year ending
31st. December, 1940.

In accordance with the
suggestion of the Ministry of Health, and in the interests
of economy the Report has been made as brief and concise
as possible.

It will be readily understood
that routine work has often to take second place to the
serious and urgent health problems arising during the course
of the war. Every effort is made to safeguard the public
health as far as possible in these times.

I have the honour to be,

your obedient servant,

John Young,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Camb.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	52,551
Registrar-general's estimate of:-	
resident population, mid-1940	6,745
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to Rate Book	1,873
Rateable value (including £7,422 Government property)	£33,806
sum represented by a penny rate... ..	£120

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Agriculture is the staple industry, there being no factories or workshops save such as are common to all Rural districts. Ironstone is worked in the vicinity of Market Overton and Gotesmore.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Legitimate	M. 52	F. 47	Total	99
	Illegitimate	M. 2	F. 3		5
					104
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1940					15.4
still Births	Legitimate		F. 2	Total	2
					15.15
Birth Rate for England and Wales					15.15
Deaths		M. 49	F. 49	Total	98
					14.5
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average populations... ..					14.5
Comparative Death Rate (i.e. allowing for age and sex distribution)					13.19
Death Rate for England and Wales					14.3

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of
the Registrar-General's short List):-

	Deaths	Total
No.29 Puerperal sepsis ...	1	<u>1</u>
All infants per 1,000 live births...	...	28.8
Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales...	...	55

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
All causes	<u>49</u>	<u>49</u>
Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	1
Cancer of Breast ...	-	4
Cancer of all other sites ...	3	5
Measles ...	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	-	-
Diarrhoea ...	-	-
Influenza ...	3	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	1	1
Other Tuberculosis ...	1	-
Diabetes ...	-	-
Intra cranial vascular Lesions ...	5	4
Heart Disease...	13	14
Other circulatory diseases ...	1	1
Bronchitis ...	2	5
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	5	2
Appendicitis ...	-	1
Other Digestive disorders ...	1	1
Acute and chronic nephritis...	1	2
Puerperal sepsis ...	-	1
Premature Birth ...	1	-
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury.	1	-
Road Traffic accidents...	4	1
Other violent causes ...	1	1
All other causes ...	5	3

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
THE AREA

1. (1) Public Health Officers of the Authority

The Medical Officer of Health acts for the Leicestershire and Rutland combined districts in which this District is included.

The sanitary Inspector is also surveyor of the rural District.

(ii) Laboratory Facilities

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year:-

Virol Research Laboratories:-

Throat swab for diphtheria...	3
	<hr/>

Emergency public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Throat swabs...	17
vaginal swabs	2
waters	2
faeces	17
Blood serum	15
	<hr/>
	53
	<hr/>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (1) WATER

Number of samples taken for analysis:-

(a) from wells	13
(b) from pipe supply	6

Results from samples taken:-

(a) from wells:-

Satisfactory	(Chemical ...	1
	(Bacteriological..	4
Unsatisfactory	(Chemical ...	2
	(Bacteriological..	6

(b) From pipe supply:-

Satisfactory	(Chemical ...	3
	(Bacteriological..	3
Unsatisfactory	Chemical ...	1
	Bacteriological..	-

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

TO THE DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

RE: [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] (22)

[illegible]

[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Number of wells:-

(a)	closed	Nil
(b)	cleansed, repaired, etc.	12

Number of cases in which public supply was substituted for well water.. ... 1

Number of parishes with piped water supply:-

(a)	from public mains	5
(b)	from private Reservoirs.. ...	9

Number of parishes without a piped water supply... 14

samples taken from the Council's water undertakings in all five parishes supplied have proved quite satisfactory, but cleaning out of private wells has again been requested in several instances to ensure a wholesome supply.

The temporary shortage which previously occurred in the public supply at Whissendine did not recur during 1940.

The new pumping plant at Market Overton for supplies to that village and Cottesmore Aerodrome has been in operation since January, 1939. Schemes for increasing the supply to Cottesmore Aerodrome and providing the Aerodrome at Edith Weston and Woolfox Landing Ground at Greetham with water are in active course of construction. The machinery of the village water supply at Manton was thoroughly overhauled during 1940 with very satisfactory results.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Number of cesspools constructed during the year ... 4

Number of cesspools abolished during the year ... 3

Total number on 31st. December, 1940 ... 326

(a) sewerage:-

Repairs to the existing sewers at Langham and Market Overton were carried out during the course of 1940.

(b) sewage disposal:-

Some alteration was necessary to the system of sewage disposal in the Parish of Market Overton and this was dealt with.

(c) Particulars of any scheme which is at present under consideration:-

The execution of the works of sewerage in the parish of Langham, in connection with which the Council have called in Consulting Engineer has been deferred for the period of the present emergency.

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2. (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Total number in the District at the end of 1940:-

(1)	Privies	55
(2)	Pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1513
(3)	water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	293

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year:-

(1)	Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	pails	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Number of Privies converted to pail closets during the year 1

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING

Eight of the villages in the District - Cottesmore, Eaton, Empingham, Langham, Market Overton, Greetham, Tickencote and Manton, are now provided with a weekly scavenging of refuse carried out by the contractors on behalf of the Council. A partial removal is provided for Ashwell, Barrow and Whissendine.

The above eight villages are provided with a weekly scavenging system of night soil carried out by contractors on behalf of the Council. Cesspools at Empingham are emptied by contract.

Scavenging at Cottesmore and Edith Weston Aerodromes is now carried out by contractor under arrangement with the Air Ministry.

The possibility of a collection by motor lorry from all villages in the Rural District has been discussed and has been left in abeyance for the time being.

During the year, by arrangement with the Women's Voluntary Service and other local bodies, some 32 tons 8 cwt. and 2 qrs. of waste paper, cardboard, rags and bones, were salvaged and disposed of for the approximate sum of £76 : 10 : 0.

(iii) SMOKE ABATEMENT

One observation was made, but no action was necessary.

(iv) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this heading should be for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this Report.

Total number of complaints received	...	...	...	59
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	86

Nature of Inspections:-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Revisits</u>
Dwelling houses (all purposes)...	211	425
Tents, vans, etc.	3	3
Slaughter Houses	4	7
Dairies and cowsheds	53	35
Offensive Trades	-	-
Animal Keeping	8	12
Workshops, etc.	18	21
Shops	17	17
Other premises	309	939
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	632	1,486
	<hr/>	<hr/>

NOTICES

<u>preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>other</u>
Outstanding on 1st. January	6	-
Issued during the year	58	28
Complied with during the year	58	28
Statutory action necessary	5	-
Outstanding 31st. December	6	-
 <u>statutory</u>	 <u>Housing</u>	 <u>other</u>
Outstanding on 1st. January	32	-
Issued during the year	4	1
Complied with during the year	7	1
Statutory action necessary	4	1
Outstanding 31st. December	29	-

summary Action

Number of summonses issued	-
Number of convictions obtained	-

(v) SHOPS

Action taken during the year under the provisions of the shop Act, 1934.

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>defects found</u>	<u>defects remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st. Dec.</u>
Sanitary conveniences	-	2	2	-
Temperature	-	-	-	-
Ventilation	-	-	-	-

(vi) CAMPING SITES

Number of sites in area used for camping purposes during the year ...	2
Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued ...	Nil
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in area during summer months ...	17

(vii) REGULATED BUILDINGS

	<u>Number in</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Action taken</u>	<u>General</u> <u>conditions</u>
Common Lodging Houses	-	-	-	-
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	1	3	Removed	Unsatisfactory
Canal Boats	-	-	-	-
Offensive Trades	-	-	-	-

The removal of two vans, one situated in the Parish of Exton and the other at Empingham was effected during the course of the year without resort to legal proceedings.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

No cases came under observation. A supply of powder and zaldecide is used when necessary.

All premises of prospective tenants for council houses are inspected prior to removal.

Every Council House in the district is visited periodically by the sanitary Inspector for purposes of rent collection and the inspection carried out for defects and cleanliness when circumstances warrant such action.

(ix) SCHOOLS

The sanitary conditions are satisfactory and the water supply is good.

H O U S I N G

1. NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR

(a)	By the Local Authority ...	Nil
(b)	By other bodies or persons ...	Nil

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	211
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	636
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ...	8
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	8
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation...	58

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2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 53

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(a)proceedings under section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices:-

(a)	BY owners	4
(b)	BY Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(b)Proceedings under public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices

(a)	BY Owners	1
(b)	BY Local Authority in default of Owners'	Nil

(c) proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 3

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART iv - OVERCROWDING

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year... .. 5

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 5

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 26

(b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases... 19

(d) particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil

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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY

	<u>cowkeepers</u>	<u>nairymen or purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers)</u>
Number on Register	143	4
Number of inspections of premises..	81	6
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year ...	1	-
Number of contraventions found during the year	12	1
Number of contraventions remedied during the year	10	1
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st. December... ..	2	-

Total contraventions

	<u>outstanding. from previous year</u>	<u>Found during year</u>	<u>Remedied during year</u>	<u>outstanding on 31st. Dec.</u>
Cleansing	-	3	3	-
Structural	-	-	-	-
Alterations	1	4	4	1
Utensils	-	1	1	-
Other	-	-	-	-

MILK SAMPLING

Undertaken by the county council.

Unsatisfactory samples:-

No samples were found to be so unsatisfactory during 1940 as to warrant action being taken against any producer.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1936 and 1938

Licences issued by Local Authorities:-

Number of Licences issued in respect of:-							
Tuberculin Tested			Accredited			Pasteurised	
Bottling	Distribution Dealers	supple- mentary	Bottling	Distribution Dealers	supple- mentary	pasteur- ising Plants	Retail Dist. Dealers supp. ment- ary
-	2	2	1	19		N I L	

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Number of public Abattoirs in the District ... Nil

Private slaughter Houses:-

	<u>In Jan, 1940</u>	<u>In Dec. 1940</u>
Number registered	Nil	Nil
Number licenced	11	11 ⁺

⁺Under war-time regulations slaughtering is now carried out at Melton Mowbray.

Number of visits to premises other than at times of slaughter ... ..	...	...	11
Number of inspections of meat at times of slaughter ... ..	...	...	Nil
Number of Knacker Yards in the District...	...	...	Nil
Number of visits to Knacker Yards ... ..	...	...	Nil

MEAT STALLS - Nil

MEAT SHOPS, MEAT STORES, ETC.

Nine inspections were made

PLACES WHERE FOOD (OTHER THAN MEAT) IS KEPT OR PREPARED FOR SALE

Three inspections were made.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Regulations for the notification of Measles and whooping cough came into operation on October 23rd. 1939

Notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) during the year 1939.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Scarlet fever	7	7	-
Diphtheria	6	6	-
Pneumonia	6	-	1
Erysipelas	5	1	-
Cerebro spinal Meningitis	-	-	-
Measles	40	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1
Malaria	-	1	-
Paratyphoid	1	1	-
Dysentery	6	-	-
Chicken Pox	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-

AGE GROUPS

Disease	Under one	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over
scarlet fever				1		2	1	2			1	
Diphtheria						2	1		2	1		
Pneumonia		1	1						1		1	2
Erysipelas									2		2	1
Measles		5	1	3	2	9	4	3	13			
Paratyphoid								1				
Dysentery						2			1		1	2
Chicken Pox								1				
Food poisoning											1	

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1940

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under one	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -65	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

Date		Time		Place		Remarks	
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
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25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31

Date		Time		Place		Remarks	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
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30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31